

Environmental Finance Center Tools and Resources



Plan2Fund™ [<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc>]

Plan2Fund™ is a Watershed Planning Tool developed by the Environmental Finance Center at Boise State University that helps organizations determine their funding needs to meet the goals and objectives of their Watershed Program Plan.

Plan2Fund™ walks users through estimating the costs of their Watershed Program Plan's Goals and Objectives, assessing any local matches, and determining funding needs to meet your Goals and Objectives. The results from *Plan2Fund™* can be used to search for funding sources utilizing the Environmental Finance Center's internet-based Directory of Watershed Resources. *Plan2Fund™* is available to download free of charge at <http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc>



Directory of Watershed Resources: [<http://ssrc.boisestate.edu>]

The *Directory of Watershed Resources* is an on-line, searchable database for watershed restoration funding. The database includes information on federal, state (Region 1 and Region 10), private, and other funding sources and assistance. Users can query the information in a variety of ways including by agency sponsor, keyword, or detailed search. At the end of a query, a list of matching programs will be displayed. When a specific program is selected, detailed information on that program will be displayed and can be printed. Please contact Amy Williams at (866) 627-9847 to for more information.



Guidebook of Financial Tools [<http://www.epa.gov/efinpage/guidbkpdf.htm>]

A *Guidebook of Financial Tools* is a reference work intended to provide an overview of a wide range of ways and means that are useful in paying for sustainable environmental systems. It is divided into ten sections, presenting outline information on approximately 340 financial tools that include traditional means of raising revenue, borrowing capital, enhancing credit, creating public-private partnerships, and ways of providing technical assistance as well as financing tools that are, or might soon be, available to address significant environmental priorities.

The *Guidebook* is the product of a collaborative effort among members of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Environmental Financial Advisory Board, the Directors and staff of eight university-based Environmental Finance Centers, the staff of EPA's Environmental Finance Program, and numerous other contributors. The *Guidebook* is available at <http://www.epa.gov/efinpage/guidbkpdf.htm> or call Amy Williams at (208) 426-4990 to receive the *Guidebook* on CD-ROM.

Watershed Funding Customer Service Assistance: (866) 627-9847

The EFC has set up a toll-free telephone number to call if you want one-on-one technical service assistance when searching for watershed funding within Region 10. The line has been established to provide support in searching the Directory of Watershed Resources as well as provide information on financing tools, resources, contact information, and other assistance. The toll free number is (866) 627-9847.



CAPFinance [<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/services.htm>]

CAPFinance™ is an easy-to-use, icon-driven capital asset inventory and financial planning software program to help water systems in their financial decision-making, allowing users to analyze funding options for renewal and replacement of assets. The output from the program can be integrated into financial planning as the water supply system strives to meet customer demands, maintain quality of service, maintain compliance with provisions of Safe Drinking Water Act and secure the financial resources necessary to fund these efforts.



RateCheckup [<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/services.htm>]

RateCheckup™ is powerful, easy-to-use rate-setting and financial planning software for water utilities. The program automatically generates rate schedules, and prepares a two-year budget and financial forecast. **RateCheckup™** will: Lead you through the input of your customer, facility, and budget data; lead you through the rate design process; develop a two-year budget forecast; develop a Base Charge and a Volume Rate for each customer group; provide design options, including multiple customer groups, optional Seasonal rate or optional Lifeline rate.



CapacityTracker [<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/services.htm>]

Capacity Tracker™ assists in tracking the financial viability of water or wastewater systems collecting key financial information. Capacity Tracker™ uses only 14 data elements from the standard audit to generate eight key ratios to collect and track information, the program shows the movement of each ratio over time and compares its overall condition or risk level to benchmarks. Capacity Tracker doesn't require any one standard COA.

Utility Budget Tool [<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc>]

The Environmental Finance Center at Boise State University has developed these worksheets for water and wastewater systems to use when developing their financial plans. These worksheets can be used to develop a six-year annual budget and track the actual budget over the current year. The worksheets assist operators, managers and board members in determining whether key criteria of financial viability are being met based upon current and future operations, by investments in the system and by the establishment of certain reserves.



The Financial Analysis Calculator for Exemptions

[<http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/services.htm>]

The **Financial Analysis Calculator for Exemptions** assists regulators in the process of reviewing a Public Water System's application for an exemption to a drinking water standard through the analysis of a system's financial and economic condition. The program generates reports on the current financial and economic condition of the system and trends over time, the affordability of current water rates, and the financial and affordability impacts of financing capital improvements to meet the water quality standard.

For more information on these tools visit <http://sspa.boisestate.edu/efc/services.htm> or contact Gary Carroll at gcarroll@boisestate.edu or Bill Jarocki at bjarocki@boisestate.edu or call the Environmental Finance Center at (208) 426-1567.